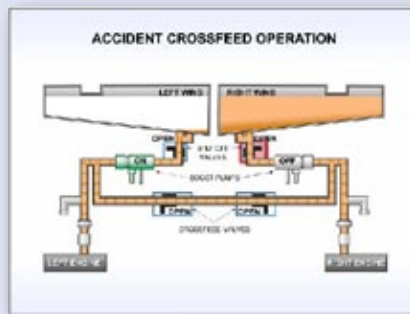


Friday, May 12, 2006

The Safety Board Adopts Two Aviation Reports at May 2 Board Meeting*Accident site of Canadair, Ltd., Flight 73.***Contaminated Wing Caused Fatal Crash in Colorado**

In a Board meeting last week, the Safety Board determined that the probable cause of a corporate jet crash in Colorado was the flight crew's failure to ensure that the airplane's wings were free of ice or snow contamination that had accumulated while the airplane was on the ground. This failure resulted in an attempted takeoff with upper wing contamination that led to the subsequent stall and crash.

On November 28, 2004, a Canadair, Ltd., CL-600-2A12, flight 73, crashed on takeoff at Montrose Regional Airport, Montrose, Colorado. Instrument meteorological conditions prevailed, and snow was falling. Of the six occupants, the captain, flight attendant, and one passenger were killed, and the first officer and two passengers were seriously injured. Impact forces and postcrash fire destroyed the airplane.

*Fuel System: Accident Crossfeed Operation.***Fuel Starvation Cited As Cause of Cargo Airplane Crash**

The Safety Board determined that the probable cause of the crash of an Air Tahoma cargo airplane was "fuel starvation resulting from the captain's decision not to follow approved fuel crossfeed procedures."

On August 13, 2004, Air Tahoma, Inc., flight 185, a Convair 580, crashed about 1 mile south of Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport, Covington, Kentucky, while on approach to landing. The first officer was killed, and the captain received minor injuries. The airplane was destroyed by impact forces.

Acting Chairman Rosenker Praises Highway Safety Technology Advances

On May 10, 2006, Acting Chairman Mark Rosenker spoke at a news conference held in conjunction with the Society of Automotive Engineer's 2006 Government/Industry Meeting in Washington, D.C. The event highlighted some of the new technologies available to automakers that will make driving safer. Acting Chairman Rosenker discussed how technological advances have made commercial aviation one of the safest modes of transportation and how new technologies hold the promise to repeating those successes in the highway mode. In addition to noting the improvements made in crash mitigation, Rosenker welcomed the new era of technologies, many of which are already available, that will help prevent the accident from occurring in the first place. Some of those technologies include:

- Adaptive cruise control
- Electronic stability control
- Roll stability control
- Lane departure warning systems
- Collision warning systems
- Drowsy driver detection and warning systems
- Vehicle to vehicle communication systems, and
- Vehicle to infrastructure communication systems

He summed up by encouraging the automotive industry and government to move more quickly to install available technologies in and to continue to develop and implement the most promising technologies that will make future cars safer.



Tom Doyle, Kevin Quinlan, and Dwight Foster accompanied the Acting Chairman to the event.

Safety Board Helps Promote Recreational Boating Safety

On April 30, Member Hersman represented the Safety Board at the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the National Marine Manufacturers Association and the Outdoor Channel. Under the MOU, the two groups will develop a joint public relations campaign to promote recreational boating safety. In her remarks at the signing, Member Hersman noted that the MOU marks the beginning of a new chapter in recreational boating safety by two entities that have the ability to positively influence the behavior of boaters. Earlier this year, the Safety Board issued Recommendation M-06-4, asking the National Marine Manufacturers Association to develop a marketing strategy to promote increased use of personal flotation devices and to integrate the strategy into the promotion and sale of boats and accessories.

Member Hersman Participates in the 2006 Kentucky Lifesavers Conference

To celebrate the enactment of new graduated licensing and primary enforcement seat belt laws, on April 26, Member Hersman traveled to Louisville to participate in the 2006 Kentucky Lifesavers Conference. Hersman presented an award to Kentucky Representative Tom Burch, the graduated licensing bill sponsor, and she recognized Transportation Secretary Bill Nighbert and State Senate President David Williams, who also were instrumental in the efforts to enact these important laws. Hersman also encouraged the 400 conference participants to seek a booster seat law and strengthened impaired driving laws that include administrative license revocation.

At the conference, Steve Blackistone of the Safety Advocacy Division gave a presentation about the Safety Board's 15-passenger van investigations. He emphasized the need for increased state oversight of private school transportation operations and urged Kentucky to enact license endorsements for drivers of 15-passenger vans.

Safety Board & GAMA Implement Action Plan to Enhance Regional Aviation Investigations

As a result of initiatives spelled out in the February 14 remarks by Acting Chairman Rosenker to the Executive Board of the General Aviation Manufacturers Association (GAMA), a joint Safety Board–GAMA Action Plan was initiated this week to "foster efforts that will enhance the process to improve safety." For example, Jeff Guzzetti, Deputy Director for Regional Operations (AS-2R), hosted an inaugural monthly conference call with the air safety chiefs of GA airframe and engine manufacturers to review the activities and efficiencies of the past month's regional aviation accident investigations. "The 1-hour call was very productive," Jeff stated, "It provided an excellent feedback loop about our job as investigators." The monthly calls will take place on the second Tuesday of each month via the Board's Com Center. Additional actions that address the Acting Chairman's initiatives include the implementation of improved FAA and Safety Board processes to notify GAMA members of accidents in a timely manner, development of airframe and engine training programs for Board investigators, and Safety Board participation at this year's EAA AirVenture Convention in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Altogether, 18 action items were addressed by a working group consisting of GAMA, FAA, and Board representatives.

The Acting Chairman's remarks to GAMA can be found at <http://www.nts.gov/speeches/rosenker/mvr060214.htm>

Former Safety Board Member Receives 2006 Ozarks Ambassador Award

Former Board Member John A. Hammerschmidt will receive the 2006 Ozarks Ambassador Award presented by the North Arkansas College Foundation. The award is presented to someone from Northern Arkansas who has represented the area with distinction nationwide in one or more of the following fields: agriculture, finance, medicine, education, politics, law, business, social services, the ministry, or industry.

Hammerschmidt served as a Safety Board member for 12 years. During his tenure at the Board, he participated in over a dozen on-scene major accident investigations, including the 2001 collision between a U.S. submarine and the Japanese fishing vessel *Ehime Maru* near Honolulu, Hawaii; the 2001 CSX freight train derailment, fire, and hazardous materials release within a tunnel beneath the city of Baltimore; and the 1999 gasoline pipeline explosion in Bellingham, Washington. He also participated in several public hearings involving all modes of transportation including in 2000, the 4-day hearing on the Alaska Airlines Flight 261 accident; in 1999, the hearing in Miami, Florida, on the 1998 fire aboard the cruise ship *MS Ecstasy*; and in 1997, the 4-day hearing in San Juan, Puerto Rico, pipeline explosion.



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Transportation Lawyer of the Year - Ronald S. Battocchi

Ron Battocchi has been chosen as this year's recipient of the Federal Bar Association's Transportation Lawyer of the Year award. The award will be presented to Battocchi May 25, 2006, at 6 p.m at a reception in the Rayburn House Office building.

Transportation Lawyer of the Year is presented to an attorney, in either government service or private practice, who has made a significant contribution to the field in the previous year or who has distinguished himself or herself through consistent professional activity during his or her career.

Safety Board Welcomes New Chief of Administrative Services Division



Gordon Fox was recently named as the new Chief of Administrative Services Division. Fox assumed his new duties on May 1.

Before coming to the Safety Board, Fox was employed at the National Institute of Standards and Technology as the Chief of their Facilities Planning, Engineering and Construction Group. He has over 19 years experience as a professional engineer and warranted Contracting Officer, during which he directed and administered large facilities management programs. In addition, Fox holds the rank of Commander in the United States Naval Reserve. He has led teams of engineers and technicians in combat in the construction and management of facilities during "Operation Iraqi Freedom."

Fox graduated from the University of Texas at Austin in 1995 with an M.S. in structural engineering and from West Virginia University in 1986 with a B.S. in civil engineering.

